Southern U. Chief Ousts 2 Who Advised Dissidents

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BATON ROUGE, Nov. 19—Dr. G. Leon Netterville Jr., president of Southern University, has quietly dismissed at least two professors, including a department head, for "advising students" who had been demonstrating in the last three weeks.

Dr. Joseph Johnson, chairman of the civics department, and George W. Baker Jr., a professor of engineering, were ousted, and sources reported that as many as four others might have been sent letters of dismissal by Dr. Netterville. However, there was no announcement of the action and university officials were not available for comment today.

The dismissals angered student leaders, who feel that the administration may take further action against them. Nevertheless, they said they would resume their demonstrations after the Thanksgiving vacation, which began early as the result of a campus confrontation with law enforcement officers last Thursday in which two students were killed.

What started out as a meeting of students with Dr. Netterville over the arrest of four campus leaders deteriorated into the violent confrontation, and many of the events that followed are still unclear.

Gov. Edwin W. Edwards said today that he would keep National Guard troops alerted for duty when classes resumed Nov. 27.

An accord reportedly reached yesterday between dissident

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students and the university administration appeared shaky today.

They are really asking for it," said one of several student leaders interviewed today near the Baton Rouge campus. "If they think this thing is over, they're foolish."

The students remained convinced that Dr. Netterville plotted with the police and the Governor to set up their arrest even while he was negotiating with them. Dr. Netterville called a news conference yesterday to deny the charges as "irresponsible."

The students were meeting with him in his office at 9 A.M. Thursday. Sheriff Al Amiss, of East Baton Rouge Parish, said in an interview today that his forces were called at 8:30 A.M. by the university's chief security officer.

"We were already on alert and had been called out there several times the past three weeks," Sheriff Amiss said.

"At 8:30 Thursday morning, their chief security officer called my chief deputy and said there was a desperate situation out there, that the students had taken over the building."

At his news conference yesterday, Dr. Netterville said that he did not feel that the students had taken control of the building, only his office.

One student leader commented:

"Dr. Netterville told us he was going to go and find out about the arrested student leaders and that he would be back in two hours. We were waiting for him.

"As a matter of fact, the administrative staff was still there and continued to work. But the staff left when a phone call came. Then the deputies and state troopers showed up in rior gear."

Students here and at New Orleans have been demonstrating for several weeks. In New Orleans, they occupied the ad-

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ministration building until they forced the resignation of the campus administrator, Dr. Emmett Bashful. However, the State Board of Education refused to accept the resignation and the issue is still cloudy.

A Pattern Emerges

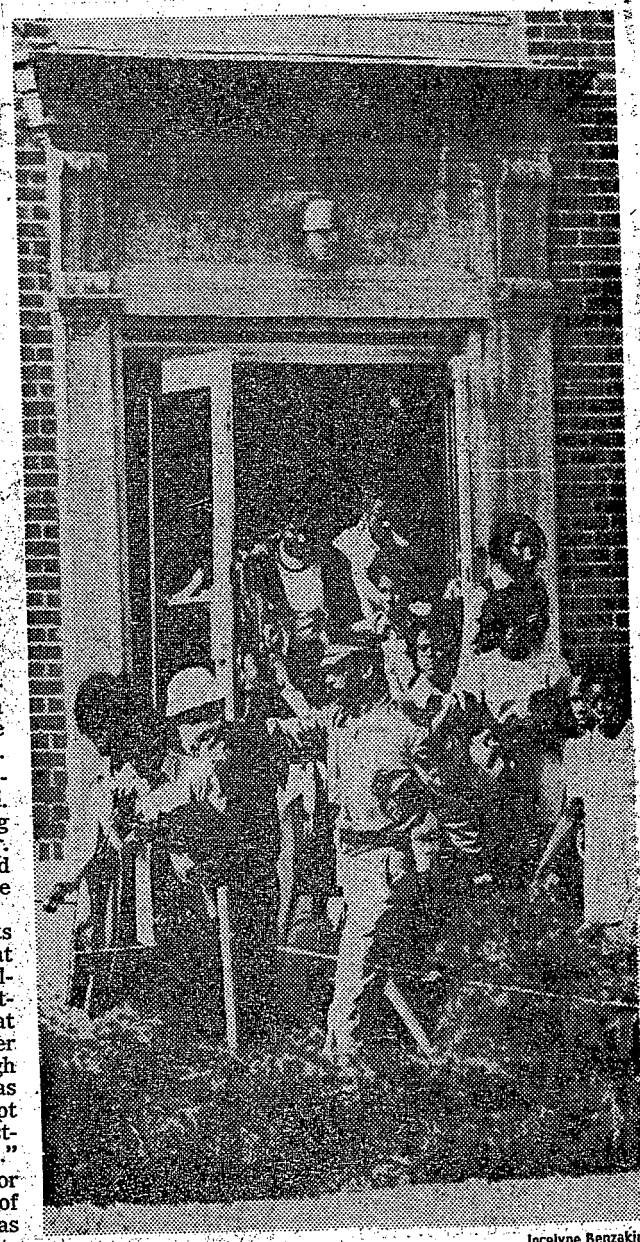
At the main campus here, the pattern has been that early in the week, students would call for a boycott of classes. By midweek they would go from classroom to classroom and ask instructors to dismiss the students, with some teachers complying. Tension would build up, but it would be alleviated by the weekend when many students went home.

The main grievance of the students was their dissatisfaction with Dr. Netterville, whom they considered to be authoritarian. They want him to resign and they want to have a bigger voice, along with the faculty, in governing the school.

"That was our main complaint," one student leader said. "We felt that the overriding thing was to get rid of Dr. Netterville, because if that did not happen nothing else would."

"We also had complaints about such things as food that was very bland and poor quality, living facilities with mattresses so worn and torn that some students would rather sleep on the floor, and high prices for everything, such as room and board, that kept many students who were mostly on financial aid in a pinch."

The conflict over whether or not there was a takeover of the administration building was one of a series of statements that conflicted or could not otherwise be confirmed. In some cases, the officials backtracked.



Jocelyne Benzakin

Photo taken last Thursday shows youths being removed from the administration building they had seized. Gunfire, in which two died, followed moments later.